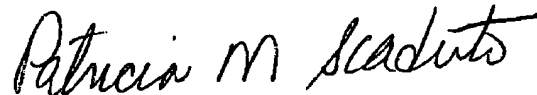


"Adachi et al. teach a one package RTV silicone composition containing each of the claimed components (A), (B), (C), and (E) meeting the preferred embodiments of claims 2 to 7 and 12 to 14.... In this manner, the teachings of Adachi et al. meet or render obvious each of the claimed components (A) to (C) and (E) to (G). Column 5 teaches the addition of a surface treated silica filler, but patentees fail to teach the specific filler limitations as found in instant component (D). Hartmann et al. teach silanized silica meeting the limitations of component (D). See for instance the Example on column 2, and claim 1 in Hartmann et al. This silica is used as an additive in silicone RTV compositions and offers various benefits over traditional silicas. See the bottom of column 1 to column 2; GB 2 001 303 A teaches hydrophobized silicas that can be used as fillers in RTV silicone compositions. See page 1, which teaches the properties of the silica, meeting the requirement of claimed component (D). Page 4 teaches various benefits associated with such a silica. Thus one having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use the silica of Hartmann et al. and/or the silica of GB 2 001 303 A, ie. One meeting the requirements of claimed component (D), in the composition of Adachi et al. in an effort to take advantage of the benefits and properties thereof. In view of this the instant claims are rendered obvious."

Applicants respectfully disagree. Adachi et al. describes a method of preparing a one-package room temperature curable silicone composition that does not slump prior to cure, does not crack or fissure during their cure even when deformed by an external force and do not yellow. Although some of the ingredients may be similar to those used in the present invention the purposes and compositions are different. There is no teaching or suggestion in Adachi et al. as to including a hydrophobic surface treated dry process silica with such a specific carbon content and bulk density as required by Applicants. The present invention is a water repellent silicone coating agent composition. As stated in paragraph 9, lines 19-23 of the present specification, "The use of hydrophobic surface treated dry process silica with such specific carbon content and bulk density makes it possible to obtain a coating agent of superior flowability, coating properties, and water repellent properties...." The other art cited by the Examiner described particular silicas, however there is no teaching or suggestion that those silicas or that the specific carbon contents and/or bulk density claimed by Applicants would be useful in providing the

properties achieved by the present invention. Therefore, even if it had been obvious to try using silicas such as described by Hartmann et al and/or GB 2 001 303 A, a person skilled in the art looking at these references would not have the needed expectation that it would work. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider her rejection that the present claims are prima facie obvious over the cited references and allow claims 1 to 17 to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia M. Scaduto

Reg. No. 39,827

(989) 496-6925

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